

REMARKS

Applicant confirms the election of Group I of the restriction requirement. The election is made without traversal. In conformance with Applicant's election, Claims 21-22 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1-19 have also been cancelled without prejudice. Cancelled claims 5-10 and Claims 15-19 have been rewritten in independent format as new claims 24-34. Claims 20 and 23 have been amended so as to correct various objections raised by the Examiner.

Drawings:

Submitted herewith are formal drawings consisting of 20 sheets corresponding to Figures 1-20. Formal drawings were required pursuant to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2002. Entry of the enclosed formal drawings is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC § 102(b):

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as anticipated by references by Wrodnigg, Fleet, and Barta. Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as anticipated by the reference by Hiranuma. Applicant traverses both of these bases of rejection. However, these bases of rejection are obviated by Applicant's cancellation of claims 1-4 and of claims 11-14.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103(a):

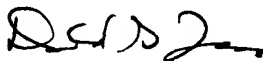
Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as obvious over references by Wrodnigg, Fleet, and Barta. Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over the reference by Hiranuma. Applicant traverses both of these bases of

rejection. However, these bases for rejection are obviated by Applicant's cancellation of claims 1-4 and of claims 11-14.

Summary:

Applicant has confirmed the election of Group I (Claims 1-20 and 23) and has cancelled the non-elected claims, viz. claim 21-22, without prejudice. Claims 1-19 have also been cancelled without prejudice. Cancelled claims 5-10 and 15-19 have been rewritten in independent format as new claims 24-34. Claims 20 and 23 have been amended so as to corrected various issues of indefiniteness, raised by the Examiner. New Claims 24-34 and amended claims 20 and 23 are patentably novel and definite. Further examination and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

A marked-up version of amendments to Claims 20 and 23 is provided:

In the Claims:

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20. (once amended) An inhibitor according to claim [9] 34 where R⁴ is methyl.

23. (once amended) A process for treating a subject having arthritis comprising the
step of administering an inhibitor selected from claims [1, 11, and 21] 24, 27, 30, and
10 33 to said subject of sufficient quantity for inhibiting hexoaminidase activity within said
[patient] subject.